

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington,

D.C. 20231 on Dec. 19, 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

FRANCIS et al.

Serial No.: 09/657,289

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filing Date: September 7, 2000

Examiner: Unassigned

Title:

LUCIFERASE EXPRESSION CASSETTES AND METHODS OF USE

BLANKET PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE OR CREDIT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

If a paper is untimely filed in this application or any file wrapper continuation application derived therefrom by applicant(s) or her/his/their representative, the Commissioner is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for the minimum extension of time required to make said paper timely. In the event a petition for extension of time is made under the provisions of this paragraph, the Commissioner is hereby requested to charge any fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)-(d) to Deposit Account No. 18-1648. This, however, is not authorization to pay the issue fee.

If a paper is concurrently or subsequently filed in this application or any file wrapper continuation application derived therefrom by applicant(s) or her/his/their representative and a fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17 is required to effect any amendment, petition or other action requested in said paper, the Commissioner is hereby requested to charge any deficiency in said fee, or credit any overpayment of said fee, to Deposit Account No. 18-1648. This, however, is not authorization to pay the issue fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 19 Dec 2000

Registration No. 33,875

ROBINS & ASSOCIATES 90 Middlefield Road, Suite 200 Menlo Park, CA 94025

Telephone: (650) 325-7812

Fax: (650) 325-7823